



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/582,261	10/10/2000	William Kenney	06975-029001	4267
26171	7590	06/16/2006	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON P.C.			LY, ANH VU H	
P.O. BOX 1022			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			2616	

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/582,261

Applicant(s)

KENNEY, WILLIAM

Examiner

Anh-Vu H. Ly

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9 and 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 9 and 10 are objected to because of the following informalities:

With respect to claim 9, in line 2, "the client computer" should be changed to --a client computer--.

With respect to claim 10, in line 4, "the terminal server identifier data" should be changed to --the terminal server identifier--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3, 7-8, 11-19, 22, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ansell et al (US Patent No. 6,151,631) in view of Gehani et al (US Patent No. 5,946,687). Hereinafter, referred to as Ansell and Gehani.

With respect to claims 1 and 16, Ansell discloses a method for data transfer between a host system (Fig. 1, server 150 and TR server 100), a database (Fig. 1, databases 110 and 114), and a terminal server (Fig. 1, computer 160 is considered as terminal server), the terminal server having a geographic location (col. 3, lines 17-24 and Fig. 1, the IP address of the client computer 160 is used to retrieve information regarding the entity to which the IP address is allocated from

Art Unit: 2616

an allocation database. The allocation information includes contact information which is parsed to determine a geopolitical territory, e.g., a country, within which the client computer is located), the method comprising:

receiving at a host system, a terminal server identifier from a terminal server having a geographic location (col. 5, lines 50-54, the inquiry includes an IP address of the computer whose geopolitical location is to be determined, e.g., IP address of computer 160);

querying a database to obtain service data based on the terminal server identifier (Fig. 7, block 706, TR receives an inquiry from server and the content is sent with qualification); and

automatically sending specific service data from the host system to the terminal server (Fig. 7, block 706).

Ansell does not disclose that service data is associated with the geographic location of the terminal server. Gehani discloses that user can retrieve geographic information corresponding to addresses or other location identifiers previously stored in PIM databases (terminal servers' databases) without having to re-enter the identifiers in a separate geographic information program (col. 3, lines 54-58). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to send geographic information associated with geographic locations of terminal server in Ansell's system, as suggested by Gehani, thereby providing an efficient and convenient system for retrieving desired information faster according to users needs.

With respect to claims 2 and 17, Ansell discloses that wherein the database includes a first record that associates the terminal server identifier with the geographic location (Fig. 11,

IPABC record 1102), and querying the database includes determining the geographic location based on the terminal server identifier data from the first record (col. 3, lines 17-24, the IP address of the client computer is used to retrieve information regarding the entity to which the IP address is allocated from an allocation database which comprising a plurality of records as illustrated in Fig. 11. The allocation information includes contact information, which is parsed to determine a geopolitical territory, e.g., a country, within which the client computer is located).

With respect to claim 3, Ansell discloses a system for providing digital products or contents according to the locations of IP addresses. Ansell does not disclose that the database includes a record that associates the geographic location with service data that is specific to the geographic location, and queyring the database further comprises determining the geographic location specific service data based on the determined geographic location. Gehani discloses that the PIM 12 is enabled to send an address or other location identifier directly to the GeoServer 20. The GeoServer 20 responds by delivering the requested geographic information to the PIM 12 for display to the user. Herein, the geographic information is stored in database 22 as records (col. 3, lines 48-53 and Fig. 1). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a database having records containing geographic information corresponding to geographic locations in Ansell's system, as suggested by Gehani, thereby providing an efficient and convenient system for retrieving desired information faster according to users needs.

Art Unit: 2616

With respect to claims 7, 18, and 24, Ansell discloses that wherein the terminal server identifier comprises a network address associated with the terminal server (col. 3, lines 17-24, the IP address of the client computer is used to retrieve information regarding the entity to which the IP address is allocated from an allocation database).

With respect to claims 8 and 19, Ansell discloses that wherein receiving the terminal server identifier further comprises receiving a data packet from the terminal server, the data packet including the terminal server network address (col. 5, lines 50-54, the inquiry, which including a packet, includes an IP address of the computer whose geopolitical location is to be determined, e.g., IP address of computer 160).

With respect to claims 11 and 15, Ansell discloses a host system (Fig. 1, server 150 and TR server 100) comprising:

an interface to exchange data with a terminal server situated at a geographic location via a communication link (Fig. 1, computer 160 connects to server 150 via a link);

a processor (Fig. 1, TR query server 102) configured to receive the terminal server identifier from the data interface, to query the database for specific service data associated with the terminal server identifier (Fig. 7, block 706, TR receives an inquiry from server and the content is sent with qualification), and to send specific service data obtained by the query to the data interface for transmission to the terminal server (Fig. 7, block 716).

Ansell does not disclose a database including a record associating a terminal server identifier with service data specific to a geographic location and wherein the service data is

geographic location specific service data. Gehani discloses that user can retrieve geographic information (geographic location specific service data) corresponding to addresses or other location identifiers previously stored in PIM databases without having to re-enter the identifiers in a separate geographic information program (col. 3, lines 54-58). This implies that a database having a plurality of records must be maintained by the GeoServer 20, as illustrated in Fig. 1, and contained geographic information corresponding to the location identifiers. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a database having a record associating geographic information to location identifiers in Ansell's system, as suggested by Gehani, thereby providing an efficient and convenient system for quick retrieval of desired information.

With respect to claims 12 and 13, Ansell discloses that the terminal server identifier comprises a network address and/or an IP address associated with the terminal server and the interface includes packet processing circuitry to receive a data packet from the terminal server and extract the terminal server identifier from a header region of the data packet (col. 3, lines 17-24, the IP address of the client computer is used to retrieve information regarding the entity to which the IP address is allocated from an allocation database. This implies that the address from the header region of the received data packet extracted by a processing circuit).

With respect to claim 14, Ansell discloses that wherein the database includes a disk storage medium comprising a plurality of records associating terminal server identifiers with geographic locations (Fig. 11). Ansell does not disclose wherein the database includes a disk storage medium comprising a plurality of records associating geographic locations with service

data. Gehani discloses that user can retrieve geographic information corresponding to addresses or other location identifiers previously stored in PIM databases without having to re-enter the identifiers in a separate geographic information program (col. 3, lines 54-58). This implies that a database having a plurality of records must be maintained by the GeoServer 20, as illustrated in Fig. 1, and contained service data corresponding to the location identifiers. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have a database comprising a plurality of records associating location identifiers with geographic information in Ansell's system, as suggested by Gehani, thereby providing an efficient and convenient system for quick retrieval of desired information.

With respect to claim 22, Ansell discloses a method for data transfer between a host system (Fig. 1, server 150 and TR server 100), a database (Fig. 1, databases 110 and 114), and a terminal server (Fig. 1, client computer 160 is terminal server), the terminal server having a geographic location (col. 3, lines 17-24, the IP address of the client computer is used to retrieve information regarding the entity to which the IP address is allocated from an allocation database. The allocation information includes contact information which is parsed to determine a geopolitical territory, e.g., a country, within which the client computer is located), the method comprising:

receiving at a host system, terminal server identifier from a terminal server having a geographic location (col. 5, lines 50-54, the inquiry includes an IP address of the computer whose geopolitical location is to be determined, e.g., IP address of computer 160);

accessing, by the host system, the geographic location of the terminal server based on the terminal server identifier (col. 3, lines 17-24, the IP address of the client computer is used to

Art Unit: 2616

retrieve information regarding the entity to which the IP address is allocated from an allocation database. The allocation information includes contact information which is parsed to determine a geopolitical territory, e.g., a country, within which the client computer is located);

maintaining, at the host system, specific service data (Fig. 1, server 150 contains digital products);

querying, at the host system, a database to obtain service data based on the terminal server identifier (Fig. 7, block 706, TR receives an inquiry from server and the content is sent with qualification); and

automatically sending specific service data from the host system to the terminal server (Fig. 7, block 716), wherein the host system is a single source for accessing the geographic location of the terminal server, maintaining geographic location specific service data, and sending the geographic location specific service data to the terminal server (Fig. 1, server 150 and TR server 100).

Ansell does not disclose that service data is associated with the geographic location of the terminal server. Gehani discloses that user can retrieve geographic information corresponding to addresses or other location identifiers previously stored in PIM databases (terminal servers' databases) without having to re-enter the identifiers in a separate geographic information program (col. 3, lines 54-58). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to send geographic information associated with geographic locations of terminal server in Ansell's system, as suggested by Gehani, thereby providing an efficient and convenient system for retrieving desired information faster according to users needs.

3. Claims 4-6, 9-10, 20-21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ansell et al (US Patent No. 6,151,631) and Gehani et al (US Patent No. 5,946,687) further in view of Reilly et al (US Pub 2002/0026349 A1). Hereinafter, referred to as Ansell, Gehani, and Reilly.

With respect to claims 4-6 and 23, Ansell discloses a system for providing digital products according to authorized locations. Ansell does not disclose establishing a data connection between the terminal server and a client computer, wherein establishing a data connection is carried out prior to receiving terminal server identifier; receiving the geographic location specific service data at the terminal server; forwarding the geographic location specific service data from the terminal server to the client computer; and wherein a data connection further comprises receiving a dial-up modem connection from a client computer. Reilly discloses in Fig. 1 that the clients 102 connect to the information server 104 via Internet Interconnectivity, e.g., switches 119. Herein, switches are considered as terminal servers. Therefore, a connection must be established between the clients and the switches before sending any requests to the information server 104 and the switches will forward the received geographic information from the information server 104 to the clients 102. Reilly further discloses downloading two high resolution advertisement images having pixel sizes of say, 400x300 pixels each, even when using data compression, will typically take over two minutes when using conventional 14.4K baud modems (page 5, 67th paragraph). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to establish a data connection between the client and the switches and forward the received geographic information to the

clients by switches using dial-up modem connections in Ansell's system, as suggested by Reilly, thereby information can be forwarded to clients when clients are not directly connected to the information server.

With respect to claims 9 and 20, Ansell discloses a system for providing digital products. Ansell does not disclose wherein the data packet includes request data received at the terminal server from a client computer, the request data identifying an information service. Reilly discloses that the router 270 (terminal server) receives a request for a service from client computer (Fig. 11). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to receive request data by the router from clients in Ansell's system, as suggested by Reilly, thereby information can be forwarded to information servers when clients are not directly connected to the information servers.

With respect to claims 10 and 21, Ansell discloses that querying the database comprises querying based on the terminal server identifier and the request data; and the geographic location specific service data obtained by the query of the database is associated with both the terminal server identifier and with the service identified by the request data (Fig. 7, block 702, a content request is received at the server from a client. Herein, the content request is the request data. Further, in blocks 706, 710, and 714, the specific service data is obtained according to verified IP addresses and requested content).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Simpson et al (US Patent No. 5,999,882) discloses method and system of providing weather information along a travel route.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh-Vu H. Ly whose telephone number is 571-272-3175. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

avl


CHI PHAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
6/12/06